

UNITED STATES.

PORTSMOUTH, Dec. 29.

SKETCH of the Proceedings of the Legislature of this State.

MESSAGE of His Excellency The President of this State.

Gentlemen of the Honorable Senate, and House of Representatives,

IT affords me the highest pleasure, to meet you again in Assembly to advise and consult with you upon the affairs of the State at a time when so important matters will fall under your consideration. The public papers received since the last session, will be laid before you by the Secretary, and among them, you will find many acts and resolves of Congress which will require your deliberations; among others, it is of consequence to consider the proposal of the Federal Government, to take under their care the support of the Light Houses upon the conditions therein mentioned, and determine what territory, and whether any shall be ceded to the United States: Also to consider upon the expediency of passing a law empowering the United States to confine their prisoners in the prisons of this State.

Perhaps it may be thought worthy of your attention to take under consideration the present Excise Act, and determine how long it ought to be continued: And whether the duties ought to be lessened, on account of the impost now drawn by the United States.

It may be of importance to have an inquiry, whether any of the existing laws of the State, militate with, or are repugnant to the laws of the United States, or the Constitution of the Federal Government.

The amendments proposed by Congress to the Constitution of the United States, cannot fail of being considered and determined upon as early as the nature of the business before you will admit. Some other matters of importance will from time to time, as they may be in readiness, be communicated by private messages.

This being the season for granting the supplies of the present year, that object cannot pass unnoticed.

GENTLEMEN,

I recommend to you unanimity and dispatch, and beg leave to assure you, that I shall be very happy in joining with you to promote and carry into execution all those measures which may tend to advance the good of our common country.

Given at the Council-Chamber in Portsmouth, the 23d day of December, 1789.

JOHN SULLIVAN.

IN SENATE, DECEMBER 25.

VOTED, That Josiah Gilman, jun Esq. Nathaniel Parker and Nathaniel Gilman, Esq's. be a committee to examine in the several offices of this State for proper vouchers to authenticate the accounts of this State against the United States, and furnish John Taylor Gilman, Esq. one of the Commissioners, with them.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

This vote, after being read, was concurred with this amendment, "that Nathaniel Parker, and Nathaniel Gilman, Esq's. be the committee."

Voted, That this House join in conference with the Hon. Senate (if they see fit) as soon as conveniently may be, on the subject, "whether His Excellency President SULLIVAN can constitutionally continue in the Chair of Government while he holds the office of District Judge."

HARTFORD, January 7.

We are informed, that at the general meeting of the merchants of this state, convened at Middletown on the 31st ultimo, a petition and remonstrance to the general assembly, for a repeal of the excise law, was drawn up and unanimously adopted, and is to be presented to the honorable the legislature at their next session, by a deputation from the several counties in the state.

While we reprobate an act so oppressive and unequal in its operation, we cannot but be gratified that a body so respectable have adopted a measure which tends to keep up the good harmony and peace of the state.

They have likewise written to the Hon. Alexander Hamilton, Secretary of the Treasury, requesting that light-houses might be erected and buoys placed for the improvement and safety of the navigation of this and the neighbouring states.

Since the first of September 1788, ten thousand two hundred and seventy eight yards of woollen cloth have been made at the woollen manufactory in this city. It is with pleasure we add that this manufactory is in a flourishing state—four thousand weight of fine wool has just come to hand from Spain, which with what was before on hand makes a large stock—A number of good workmen are employed, and broad and narrow cloths of various colours, superfine, midling and low priced, are sold on as reasonable terms as they can be imported.

Last Monday four fine salmon were caught in the river just below this city.

FROM THE CONNECTICUT COURANT.

THE NEWS-BOY'S ADDRESS TO HIS CUSTOMERS.

BEHOLD, another year is past,  
Full as important as the last;  
For TIME, like hares, our papers say,  
Conceives, and brings forth every day;  
Pregnant at once with dire distempers,  
Conventions, Congress, and young Empires.

Four years employed th' American nation,  
In nursing up the Confederation;  
A child of frame so weak and slender,  
No Doctor's skill could cure or mend her;  
Doom'd to decay, in hectic deep,  
And leave all good old whigs to weep.

But soon a general States' Convention,  
With much lov'd WASHINGTON the bench on,  
Proposed a federal government,  
To all the States for their consent.

How did its foes with jealous strife,  
Attempt to take the infant's life;  
Predict a tyrant's reign, and bawl,  
That Freedom by the brat must fall!  
Like Herod, who, to keep command,  
Destroyed all children in the land,  
Left a good Prince should fill the throne,  
And scourge all knaveries with his own:  
But Wisdom, which prevails o'er bawling,  
Has sav'd the child from tory mauling;  
Given him a GUARDIAN and PROTECTOR,  
As wise as SOLON, strong as HECTOR:  
And Congress too, with powers extending,  
Farther than patching work and mending;  
Have now begun, in Freedom's cause,  
A code of energetic laws.

Have not our papers every week,  
Told you what Congress think and speak?  
That words and dogmas, fall like hammers,  
When raging—now spouts and stammers:  
How—bawls in southern cause,  
And tiresome—hems and haws?  
How Old Dominion in a passion,  
Swears she'll separate from the nation—  
If government should not reside,  
On Allegany's rocky side?

Such patriotism was never known,  
From times of BRUTUS to our own:  
For how can Congress rule the State,  
With vast Kentucky's added weight;  
Unless in center borne alone  
By huge American back bone? \*  
North Carolinians too appear,  
With State of Franklin in the rear,  
Demanding Congress now should settle,  
In woods, with Gougers, Creeks, and cattle:  
For know you not, the time will come,  
When Yankees, starv'd at home, will roam  
To southern climes, to find good fare,  
And then—your Congress' ready there?

Have you not seen our CHIEF caressed,  
In panegyric strains addressed?  
In praise genteely told t' his eyes,  
He's greatest, best, most just, most wise?  
On stage high rais'd, like puppet show,  
T' amuse the gaping croud below?  
Now States, 'tis clearly prov'd at Boston,  
Their sovereignty should make the most on;  
Each State, in governor's opinion,  
At home should rank before the Union;  
And should our President bur doubt,  
We'll try the reasoning, force of gout.  
Have not our friends, across the Atlantic,  
Found Freedom growing wild and antic?  
At haughty nobles rais'd her heel,  
And made all foes her vengeance feel?  
Open'd the Bastile's dark recess,  
Releas'd the victims from distress?  
Made tyrants fly before her arms,  
And throughout Europe spread alarms?

All this, and more, we printers tell,  
And hope this year to do as well.—  
You'll hear, each week, what duty's laid,  
To pay our debts, and help our trade;  
And if you'll pay the boy, he'll try,  
Against th' Excise to raise a cry;  
That fraudulent tax, which makes you swear,  
To save your money, when you dare.  
But this, all this, cannot be done,  
Without a fee to help us run;  
Eor boys, like wheels, in constant toil,  
Will lag and creak without the OIL.

NOTES.

\* The Allegany mountains, so called.  
+ Alluding to a recent fact.

MR. FENNO,

I REQUEST you to re-publish the following Extract, with the accompanying observations, and oblige  
PETER.

From the review of the Debates of Congress, in the 'Analytical Review, or New Literary Journal,' published by J. Johnson, London.

Their parliamentary forms, language and constitution, are nearly the same, *mutatis mutandis*, with those of the British and Irish parliaments: but the spirit and air that breathe in their speeches are more candid, sincere and patriotic. The several speakers, it is evident, are less under the influence of prejudice and political faction than ours, and more open to conviction.

The free and republican spirit of America appears in nothing more than in the toleration of taking down the public debates in short hand. This, if the British government shall verge, in process of time, towards republicanism, will be granted by our parliaments: If the genius of monarchy shall, on the contrary, overset the present political balance, the gallery doors will not be so easily opened, and less indulgence will be extended to those who report debates on the strength of memory.

THE liberality of mind which dictated the above, does honor to the human heart—The publication of the debates of Congress, have proved an unbounded source of information, instruction and amusement to the citizens of the United States. And altho from the circumstance of the novelty of the business, the various speeches have not been so fully detailed, as some persons have wished, yet upon the whole, more perfect sketches have perhaps never appeared in any country, than many of the publications have been, and the portraits of the speakers in general, have been held up to the view of the people thro this medium, in a very respectable point of light.—The National Legislature has been identified, if the expression may be allowed, to the mental eye of every citizen. The transactions of Congress have been "open and above board." The voice of clamor has not been heard, nor have insidious reproaches of intrigues, conclave, and dark proceedings grated upon our ears.—The people have without doubt, been led to entertain the most favorable and honorable sentiments of the Representative body, whose enlightened and candid policy has not only kept the doors of their Gallery open, but suffered their debates to be taken on the floor of the House as a matter of course.—Such a privilege once enjoyed (like the precious blessing of freedom) makes an indelible impression on the mind; and it would be infinitely better not to have realized the gratification, than, after having participated it for a season, to be deprived of it for ever.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY 13.

Monday the legislature of this state convened in this city, pursuant to adjournment: Not making a quorum, they adjourned until twelve o'clock yesterday.

A CORRESPONDENT

Begs leave to observe, that nothing can be more absurd than to pretend the least similarity between the American Revolution, and the present Insurrection in France. The one effected by the united exertions of an oppressed people—The other proceeding from the ebullitions of a frantic populace, who always clamor against the Government in a time of scarcity, and return to admiration and submission upon an appearance of plenty; who so far from being enslaved by LOUIS THE SIXTEENTH, never experienced so mild a reign, nor possessed a Sovereign so truly deserving the appellation of *Father of his People*. Every American ought to regret, that the gallant MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE has suffered his disappointment of the *Mareschal's* staff to induce him to head those popular clamors. A knowledge of the history of France alone, without the spirit of prophecy, is sufficient to ascertain the event of the present commotions. The few respectable characters that support the popular cause, will continue to fall off, until the reaping of the harvest; when the disturbances will cease, and the Government be restored to its original form, unless LOUIS THE SIXTEENTH shall really desire to remit some of his privileges. The former insurrections have generally enhanced the power of the Monarch, but it is not probable that the pacific LOUIS, will accept any such acquisition. Those who are called the PEOPLE of Paris are perhaps the most versatile of the human race—generally actuated by the mere impulse of the moment, and after one great exertion return to ease and imbecility. *Massachusetts Centinel*.

There is some how or other a strange propensity in many persons to arraign the proceedings, depreciate the motives, and blast the reputation of those who distinguish themselves by their exertions, and exemplary conduct on great occasions. This disposition discovers itself, not only towards eminent characters, but whole communities, and nations fall under the censure of such misanthropists. Several writers have been unwearied in their endeavors to lessen the pleasure which the friends of humanity derive from contemplating the prospect which opens upon our illustrious allies of obtaining a free constitution. Their unparalleled sacrifices—that blaze of sentiment, that energy of thought, that justness of ideas, which characterize the proceedings of the National Assembly, animate the speeches and declamations of their patriots, and run through their truly nervous publications—that intrepidity and firmness of their leaders, which asserts the long injured rights of their country in the face of despotism—in short that all-pervading spirit of light and information, which has caught from man to man, and roused every great and noble principle of the human heart to action—all these and much more that might be mentioned are but the transient ebullitions of an unconquerable versatility!—and forsooth, because the people of France a century ago, worshipped thro ignorance a tyrant; the present fermentation is to evaporate in fumo! but the cream of the jest is, that the noble assertor of the Rights of Mankind, "in both Hemispheres," the hero of volunteers in the noblest of causes, the MARQUIS DE LA FAYETTE is actuated by chagrin and disappointment, in his glorious undertaking to make his country free.

"Envy will merit, as its shade pursue."

Is there a character in the Roll of American Worthies, against whom the arrows of malevolence have not been levelled at one period or another? But they recoil—and may they ever recoil on the unprincipled traducers of patriotism and honor.

The ship *Africa*, Capt. Magee, was well at Batavia in August last.